

Post

SHORTS

Recycling

schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, May 11, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

AER Campaign

continues

The 2005 Army Emergency Relief campaign ends May 15.

Contributions thus far total \$24,896.41 toward the installation's goal of \$40,000.

This year's coordinator, Maj. Anissa M. McNeil, and the assistant campaign coordinator, Sgt. 1st Class Robin L. Thompson, can be reached at 410-278-2104/1563.

PWOC celebrates

National Day of Prayer today

The Protestant Women of the Chapel are celebrating the National Day of Prayer at the APG Post Chapel, 9 to 11:30 a.m., May 5.

PWOC is a group of women from different denominations, Post Chapel and local churches, that meet 9 to 11:30 a.m. every Thursday to have fun and fellowship together.

Child care is provided for children ages 5 and younger.

For more information, call Amy Shipley, 410-272-2804.

Days of

Remembrance today

The annual Days of Remembrance observance will be held 10 to 11 a.m. May 5, at the Post Theater.

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum has designated "From Liberation to the Pursuit of Justice" as the theme in memory of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps and the subsequent prosecution under international law of major Nazi war criminals at Nuremberg, Germany.

The guest speaker will be Bluma Shapiro, a holocaust survivor.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Serino, 410-2781534.

Rams Head Live!

kicks off Military Appreciation Month

In honor of National Military Appreciation Month, Rams Head Live!

See SHORTS, page 4

APG testers

partner with UMD



Courtesy of INTERNATIONAL IMAGING
Under the terms of MCART, the Roadway Simulator at U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, the largest of its kind in the United States, will be used for collaborative research and testing.

Mike Cast

DTC

The U.S. Army Developmental Test Command's Aberdeen Test Center signed a cooperative agreement with the University of Maryland, or UMD, April 9, officially establishing the Maryland Center for Automotive Research and Testing, or MCART.

The agreement opens an avenue for university students in engineering disciplines to work with Army testers to solve automotive engineering problems to the benefit of the Army. It is also designed to expand the educational experience for the students and ATC employees.

"The partnership is already expanding even before it has been signed into place," said Dr. C.D. Mote Jr., president of UMD at College Park. "I was very impressed by the objective of MCART...to be a world-recognized center of excellence in automotive engineering, testing, research, education, and technology, utilizing fully the expanding resources of ATC and the University of Maryland. We're extremely excited about where this is and where it is going to go."

The new center encompass-

es the automotive engineering program at UMD's College Park campus as well as the testing of automotive systems at ATC. While ATC conducts the test and evaluation program, the students will be involved with automotive research and technology development for testing, in collaboration with ATC.

Dr. Gregory Schultz, the driving force behind ATC's \$40 million Roadway Simulator, and RWS engineers Ivan Tong and Kevin Kefauver will advise UMD graduate students, who will visit the RWS at ATC for project coordination as well as academic advice. Schultz also has lab space at UMD and advises undergraduate students involved with automotive engineering at College Park.

The Roadway Simulator, which is the largest of its kind in the world and was designed for construction in three phases, enables Army testers to acquire data on vehicle performance characteristics such as handling, steering, braking, power-train performance, the durability of vehicle components, and vehicle stability in turns and grades.

The system can simulate a wide range of turns, grades,

road surfaces, vehicle speeds, acceleration and other factors that affect vehicle performance, in a laboratory environment where conditions can be precisely controlled.

The most recent phase of simulator expansion, completed in 2004, enables ATC to test dual-axle vehicles weighing up to 60,000 pounds.

The final phase of RWS expansion, planned for later this year, will enable ATC to test tractor/trailer type vehicles weighing up to 80,000 pounds.

The university is primarily focused on improving and developing test technologies for ATC's simulator and other field tests.

Plans are in the works to expand to other test instrumentation developments, to help the Army test automotive systems for Soldiers.

One of Schultz's graduate students is working on automating double-lane-change tests on the simulator, and another is striving to determine some of the dynamics of three- and four-axle trucks and to develop a model for studying their yaw stability. A third graduate student, who is also a core test director at ATC, is developing a tire testing

See MCART, page 11

APG personnel assist during vehicle accident on I-95

Ann Ham

CHPPM Public Affairs

Yvonne Johnson

APG News

Two Aberdeen Proving Ground personnel are being credited with offering what turned out to be lifesaving assistance during a serious accident on Interstate 95 April 27.

Sgt. Albert Killian of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, and Jennita Cohen, a security guard with the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, were credited with helping to save the life of one victim in the two-vehicle crash, according to Mike Gray, a construction worker from Port Deposit who was first on the scene.

The three administered first aid to the lone survivor until emergency responders arrived.

A Harford County medical transport bus containing one driver and three patients rear-ended a truck in the right lane of southbound I-95 near the Maryland House rest stop.

Killian was headed to work when he came on the scene, and when he saw that no emergency responders had arrived, he immediately pulled over to offer assistance.

After a quick call to 911, Killian got an account of the situation from Gray.

The three passengers were severely injured. Two of them were unresponsive as was the

driver who was pinned in the wreckage.

Killian crawled through a window over a wheelchair lift to enter the bus, and immediately began to work on one of the severely injured passengers.

"His pulse was weak, but he revived and then his pulse began to race," Killian said.

He said he kept the victim immobile while he talked to him to keep him alert and calm.

Gray performed CPR on the victim, while Killian assisted by elevating his legs and providing support. He said he turned the victim onto his side, checked for obstructions, kept him immobile as much as possible, and kept pressure on the lacerations to his head and face. He also used his hands to support the victim's neck, as there was no collar available.

"I had to remain calm," Killian said. "I was too afraid for him [the victim] to allow myself to be afraid."

He added that his 'automatic pilot' took over and he proceeded to perform the necessary measures to help the victim.

"I had just left a medical unit in Korea where we were required to take medical training," Killian said, adding that although he is in a preventive medicine military occupational specialty, he didn't think he would ever have to apply what he had learned.

"I didn't know how I would use that training, but now I do," Killian said.

Cohen arrived on the scene shortly after Killian.

"When I drove up I saw the situation and pulled over," Cohen said.

A retired police officer from Philadelphia, she said instinct and training immediately took over.

I don't even remember how I got in the vehicle," she said, noting that Gray and Killian "were performing CPR on one gentleman and the other was not moving," and she immediately moved in to assist.

The three worked together on the victim treating his facial wounds, applying CPR and controlling his breathing, and doing what they could for the other two passengers until medical help arrived.

"We applied CPR even though it seemed hopeless," Cohen said."

The accident resulted in three fatalities - the driver and the two other passengers.

The victim that they helped was last reported to be in stable condition, according to Gray.

"I was in there by myself and other folks were just standing around until [Killian] showed up," Gray said, adding that he was impressed with the professionalism of both Cohen and Killian.

"Their helping out calmed me down," Gray said, "espe-

cially Miss Cohen, she was cool and professional. "If it was me on the side of the road, I'd like to have [those two] around."

"I don't feel like a hero," Cohen said. "You don't stop to think in situations like that," Cohen said. "I just did what had to be done."

Killian agreed that people who see an accident should do the right thing.

"When you see an accident like this and there's no rescue or law enforcement on the scene, it is better to slow down and offer help," he said, "If you don't - who will."

Killian is assigned to the CHPPM Water Supply Management Program, where he maintains and organizes equipment for the Special Medical Augmentation Response Teams, or SMART.

Ordnance Corps

celebrates 193 years of training excellence

OC&S

As the Army's second largest branch, the Ordnance Corps will celebrate its 193-year tradition of providing "service to the line, on the line, on time" May 12 and 13.

This year's events will honor past ordnance Soldiers and discuss the role ordnance will play in the future of the force.

On May 12, the Ordnance Corps Association will host its 8th Annual Golf Tournament. That evening, 12 individuals will be inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame at the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum.

On May 13, senior leaders of the Ordnance Corps will gather to discuss current initiatives and exchange information as part of the Ordnance Senior Officer Advisory Meeting, the Ordnance Senior Warrant Officer Advisory Meeting and the Ordnance Senior Enlisted Advisory Conference.

A Retreat Ceremony will be held 3 p.m., May 13, on Ordnance Circle. Lt. Gen. Claude V. Christianson, the Army's deputy chief of staff for Logistics, will be the guest speaker for the event.

The Ordnance Anniversary Ball, held at 6 p.m. at Top of the Bay, May 13, will culminate the celebration's events.

2005 Army Concert Tour coming to APG

Yvonne Johnson

APG News

Nashville recording artist Terri Clark will be one of the featured performers at Aberdeen Proving Ground for the Miller Lite Army Concert Tour Aug. 20 on Shine Sports Field.

Also appearing will be Chely Wright, Julie Roberts and Miranda Lambert.

Clark and Roberts are both nominated for 2005 Academy of Country Music Awards to be aired on CMT May 17.

Clark is nominated for Top Female Vocalist and for Female Video of the Year for the song "Girls Lie Too," and Roberts is up for Best New Artist and CMT Breakthrough Video of the Year for the song "Break Down Here."

Tickets for the Aug. 20 concert cost \$20 in advance and \$25 the day of the concert. Gates open 6 p.m. and the show starts 7 p.m. This is a rain or shine event with lawn seating and no refunds, sponsored by Miller Lite, Chase, Diet Pepsi and MWR.

For more information, contact MWR Registration at 410-278-4011/4907.

Terri Clark

With three platinum albums, Terri Clark is

one of the most unique voices in country music today. A native of Alberta, Canada, Clark was the first Canadian female to be inducted into the Grand Ole' Opry.

Her string of hits include "Easy On the Eyes," When Boy Meets Girl," "I Wanna Do It All," "Poor, Poor Pitiful Me," and "Girls Lie Too."

Her latest album, "Honky Tonk Songs," will be released later this spring. Ten years in the making, Honky Tonk Songs is about real people and real situations. It brings Clark full circle, back to the things that first interested her in Country music.

Clark hit the charts in 1995 with "Better Things To Do" and never looked back. She is the only female solo Country performer in more that three years with two #1 singles.

Chely Wright

Vivaton recording artist Chely Wright is no stranger to the military. Last year, she performed for troops in Iraq, Kuwait, on a Middle East tour with the USO, and at a star-studded Fourth of July concert broadcast live on PBS from the lawn of the Capitol in Washington,

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Travel Extravaganza

set for May 12

Yvonne Johnson

APG News

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation Registration Office is hosting the 2005 Travel Fair, a Spring Amusement and Travel Extravaganza, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 12, at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center, building 3326.

About 25 representatives from area amusement parks, local attractions and hotels will be on hand with information on their venues, said Treva Baker, ticket representative.

They include Orioles Baseball, the National Aquarium in Baltimore, B&O Railroad, Medieval Times, the International Spy Museum, Busch Gardens of Williamsburg, Va., and more.

Giveaways and door prizes will include a "fabulous vacation package," Baker said.

"The Travel Fair lets everyone know what MWR Registration has to offer for travel plans, vacations or day trips in or out of this area.

"Many businesses are attending for the first time," she added. "Folks should come out, look around and get a jump-start on their summer vacation plans."

For more information, contact Baker at 410-278-4011/4907.

12 to be inducted into Ordnance Hall of Fame

Historical inductees



Maj. Gen. Oliver
O. Howard



Brig. Gen. John
T. Pitman Jr.



Ordnance Sgt.
Moses Williams

Contemporary inductees



Lt. Gen.
Roy E. Beauchamp



Maj. Gen. Edward
L. Andrews



Maj. Gen. Joseph
W. Arbuckle



Brig. Gen. Carlton
P. Weidenthal



Col. Richard G. Palaschak



Chief Warrant Officer 5
Michael J. Athey



Chief Warrant Officer 5
Fred Norman



Chief Warrant Officer 3
Alvin Rose



Command Sgt. Maj.
Steven A. McWilliams

OC&S

The Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame was established on May 9, 1969. It memorializes persons who have made a positive, significant contribution to the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps. Its members are honored with a permanent display at the Ordnance Museum on Aberdeen Proving Ground. This year, the chief of Ordnance will induct the following 12 individuals into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame on May 12 as part of the Ordnance Corps anniversary celebration:

Historical inductees

Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard

Howard was commissioned an ordnance officer after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1854. During the Third Seminole Indian War, he served as chief ordnance officer for the Department of Florida. On the eve of the Civil War, he resigned his regular Army commission and served as a Colonel of Volunteers for the 3rd Maine Infantry Regiment. Howard had his right arm shattered, which was later amputated, while leading a charge at the Battle of Fair Oaks in June 1862. He eventu-

ally received a Medal of Honor in 1893 for his conspicuous gallantry at Fair Oaks. During the early days of the Battle of Gettysburg, as XI Corps commander, he rallied his severely maligned troops and organized a defense that would hold for the rest of the battle. Howard received the thanks of Congress in a Joint Resolution in 1864 for his actions at Gettysburg. After the war, he led the Freedmen's Bureau and later was instrumental in establishing Howard University. He returned to Army service as a brigadier general in 1874. In 1881, Howard was appointed superintendent of West Point. In his last assignment, he served as commander for the Division of the Atlantic and Department of the East. He retired in 1894. He died in 1909 at the age of 79, ending a distinguished lifetime of service as a Soldier, administrator and educator.

Brig. Gen. John T. Pitman Jr.

Pitman enlisted in the Rhode Island Infantry at the outset of the Civil War. He eventually rose to the rank of sergeant major, before accepting a presidential appointment to the United States Military

Academy. Graduating in 1867, Pitman chose service in the Ordnance Department and would complete several developmental assignments. He later established a laboratory at the Watertown Arsenal in Massachusetts, and gained additional experience in chemistry, mineralogy, and geology during three years of detached service with the Interior Department. He was then appointed chief of Ordnance in the Department of Dakota. Tasked to establish a laboratory at the Frankford Arsenal in Philadelphia, he would develop a perforated, smokeless-propellant grain powder, which is still in use today. In his final assignment, Pitman commanded the San Antonio Arsenal, and was chief ordnance officer for the Department of Texas. His commitment continued after 42 years of service. He went on to make several invaluable contributions to the development of small arms,



explosives and propellants. He died in 1933.

Ordnance Sgt. Moses Williams

Williams enlisted in the Army in 1866 in one of two newly-authorized African American cavalry regiments. These regiments gained fame as the "Buffalo Soldiers" while serving on the western frontier. Williams, illiterate like so many freedmen, signed his enlistment papers with an "X," but his signature proudly appears on his first reenlistment papers in 1871. While serving as a Buffalo Soldier, despite the arduous duties and long days in the field, Williams learned the reading, writing, and mathematics skills needed to later become an ordnance sergeant. In 1896, he was awarded a Medal of Honor for his unyielding bravery during the Victorio War of 1879-1880. In one measure of Williams' courage during the

Victorio War, he repeatedly led flanking attacks. At one point, he personally rallied the detachment and brought it back into the fight. When the outnumbered cavalry was forced to withdraw, Williams and his lieutenant stood up to draw the enemy's fire enabling the unit to rescue three cut-off troopers. Historical accounts of Williams' service estimate that he was probably the first African-American ordnance sergeant. He retired in 1898 after 32 years of service. He died in 1899.

Contemporary inductees

Lt. Gen. Roy E. Beauchamp

Beauchamp enlisted in the Army in 1965 and completed Quartermaster Officer Candidate School a year later. After a few initial staff assignments, he went on to lead maintenance companies in Germany and Vietnam. As a Department of the Army staff officer, his work with the Logistics Control Activity led to the improvement of the management of major assemblies, ultimately saving the Army hundreds of millions of dollars.

During the Gulf War, he took command of the Eagle Support Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division, where he led more than 30,000 Soldiers. In 1995, he became the deputy chief of staff for Research, Development, and Acquisition, U.S. Army Materiel Command, where he was responsible for managing a \$3 billion annual research and development budget at nine Research and Development Centers and 400 system acquisition programs. In his final assignment, he served as deputy commanding general of AMC. He retired in 2002 after 37 years of distinguished and dedicated service to the Army and the Ordnance Corps.

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Andrews

Andrews began his military career as an infantry officer after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy in 1966. He later served as a platoon leader with 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. Shortly after earning his Ordnance Corps branch qualification, he went on to earn mechanical and industrial engineering degrees from Stanford University. During Operation Desert Storm, Andrews, then chief of staff of the 2nd Corps Support

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APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 2201, IMNE-APG-PA, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; send a fax to 410-278-2570; or send e-mail to editor@apg.army.mil.

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A final farewell



Photo by RALPH BROTH

Command Sgt. Maj. Manuel Torres, 61st Ordnance Brigade and the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School's command sergeant major, gives closing remarks at his retirement ceremony held in the Athletic Center April 1. After 30 years of faithful service, Torres plans to retire in Cecil County.

Ordnance

From, page 2

Command, VII Corps, led a staff of more than 400 personnel, which was responsible for coordinating the support provided by the command's 26,000 Soldiers.

He later assumed duties as the deputy chief of staff, Logistics for U.S. Army, Europe, where he managed a mission and base operations support budget of \$556 million.

He also planned and coordinated the Army's Prepositioned Afloat project and insured timely support for forces and humanitarian aid earmarked for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In his final assignment as commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, he led a workforce of more than 10,000 and managed a budget of \$1 billion. Under his leadership, TECOM's test facilities and ranges were significantly expanded and modernized.

He retired in 1999 after 33 years of dedicated service.

Maj. Gen. Joseph W. Arbuckle

Arbuckle enlisted in the Army upon graduating from Western State College in Colorado in 1968. After a two-year enlistment, he applied to Officer Candidacy School at Fort Belvoir, Va., where he earned his commission as an Ordnance Corps officer.

His first tour was spent as an infantry officer in Vietnam, a voluntary position. Returning from Vietnam, Arbuckle began a series of assignments that would make him one of the Army's leading missile maintenance experts.

In the early 90s, he played a key role as an Army Strategic Fellow in developing the "Revolution in Military Logistics," which included increased automation, logistics footprint reduction, and asset visibility which are all now fundamental to successful logistics operations.

As commander of the U.S. Army Armament Research, Development, and Engineering Center, he was detailed as J-4, Joint Ground Force Kuwait during Operation Desert Thunder II, the largest multinational force assembled in Kuwait since Desert Storm.

In his final assignment, Arbuckle assumed command of the U.S. Army Industrial

Operations Command, where his efforts transformed the IOC from its wholesale, industrial focus to the full spectrum of logistics readiness and support.

In 2000, Arbuckle retired after 30 years of dedicated service.

Brig. Gen. Carlton P. Weidenthal

Weidenthal graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in 1953 and was commissioned in the artillery. After completing his artillery detail with the 456th Field Artillery Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division, he served first as the post ordnance officer at Fort Greeley, Alaska, and then as an instructor at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Shortly after earning a master's degree in business at Babson Institute, he joined the newly activated 173rd Airborne Brigade on Okinawa as brigade maintenance officer and deployed to Vietnam with the brigade.

He served two stateside tours and returned to Vietnam as senior advisor to the chief of Ordnance, Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

In 1981, Weidenthal went to Germany to serve as deputy chief of staff, Support, at Headquarters Central Army Group. In that capacity, his plans and projections for maintenance sustainment, ammunition consumption, and resupply requirements materially improved the North Atlantic Treaty Organization logistics readiness.

In his final assignment, he was deputy commanding general for research and development, U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Research and Development Center.

He retired in 1985 after 32 years of dedicated service. He died in 1993 at age 61.

Col. Richard G. Palaschak

Palaschak attended ordnance branch qualification courses at APG shortly after being commissioned an ordnance officer in 1964.

He later took command of the 40th Ordnance Company in Vietnam. After an additional stateside tour, he earned a master's degree in physics from New Mexico State University in 1974.

He went on to become a physicist and then a test program director for the Defense Nuclear Agency in Albuquerque, N.M.

Palaschak culminated his

military career as deputy commander, Armament Research, Development, and Engineering Center, Picatinny Arsenal.

He retired in 1993 after 29 years of distinguished service, but his contributions to the country's ammunition infrastructure were just beginning.

In the private sector, his efforts have been instrumental in increasing awareness of the importance of ammunition production capabilities and the need to fund the ammunition base to ensure our military has a sufficient supply of the latest munitions to fight America's wars.

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Michael J. Athey

Athey started his service in 1970 as an armor crewman and later tank commander. He was eventually hand picked for an ordnance armament maintenance technician position.

In his first warrant officer assignment as an armament repair technician at Fort Hood, he devised a breakthrough test bench for troubleshooting laser rangefinders that would save the Army millions of dollars. He also used ingenuity and resourcefulness to renovate obsolete vans that would accommodate the Abrams tank and Bradley Fighting Vehicle diagnostic and component repair system.

Alley developed new procedures for the repair of Abrams tank Line Replaceable Units that were thought to be useless, saving millions of dollars in repair parts and greatly increasing his division's readiness.

Later, as field site chief for M1A2 Abrams tanks fielding at Fort Hood, he executed two modification efforts that saved the Abrams Project Manager \$1.1 million.

Alley retired from active duty after 28 years of distinguished service. He continues to serve the Army as chief of the Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command Materiel Fielding Team at Fort Hood.

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Fred Norman

Norman enlisted in the Army in 1955. Early in his career, he served as a mechanic in engineer, field artillery and missile units, before receiving his appointment as a warrant officer.

His first assignment as a warrant officer was as a maintenance technician with the

2/51st Air Defense Battalion. This unit manned the historic Nike-Hercules missile.

In Vietnam, he led a maintenance evaluation team which trained and advised units in maintenance procedures. Under his guidance, preventive maintenance classes on the M109 and M110 self-propelled howitzers substantially improved the unit's readiness rates.

In the early 80s, he served as the maintenance warrant officer assignment officer at the U.S. Army Military Personnel Center, where he managed the worldwide assignments of ordnance warrant officers.

He culminated his career as the senior maintenance advisor to the commanding general of the 82nd Airborne Division. In that capacity, he established a mentoring program for all warrant officers within the division.

He retired in 1997 after four decades of distinguished service.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Alvin Rose

Rose enlisted in the Army in 1962 as a personnel clerk. He reenlisted in 1964 and attended Explosive Ordnance Disposal School.

During the Vietnam War, he served as an EOD sergeant with the 170th Ordnance Detachment. In various Vietnam tours, he earned several distinguished military awards to include the Bronze Star with "V" device, a Soldier's Medal and a Purple Heart.

He later earned a warrant officer appointment and served as a project officer in the Doctrine and Training Literature Branch at the U.S. Army Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School

at Redstone Arsenal. He went on to serve in several developmental positions. In his last assignment, he returned to USAOMMCS took an assignment as chief doctrine officer in the Munitions Branch.

He retired from the military in 1984, but continued to serve the Army and the Ordnance Corps as a training instructor at USAOMMCS, where he earned numerous commendations for his exemplary work.

Rose retired in 1999 after 37 years of distinguished military and civilian service.

Command Sgt. Maj. Steven A. McWilliams

McWilliams began his Army career in 1976. In his first assignment at Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., he served as a power generation mechanic.

After tours in Germany and Korea, he was assigned to OC&S, where he served, first as an instructor and then as the training and operations

segeant in the Mobility Department. In that capacity, he managed the daily operations of four training divisions and a maintenance section with over 350 personnel.

He would eventually go back to Germany and become a company first sergeant, where his leadership helped reduce the company's backlog of direct support repairs to unprecedented lows for the entire division.

As the non-commissioned officer in charge of the Direct Support Maintenance Shop for the 92nd Engineer Group, he prepared the unit for deployment.

His final assignment in uniform was as the commandant of the Noncommissioned Officer Academy at OC&S.

He retired after 24 years of exemplary service.

He currently works in OC&S Command Plans and Operations as program manager for the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence.

Avoiding Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

If you're pregnant, don't drink. If you drink, don't get pregnant

ASAP

It is known how much alcohol is safe for an adult to drink – it just isn't known how much is safe for a fetus. It is also known that the number one cause of mental retardation in the United States is prenatal alcohol exposure.

Alcohol and Other Drug Related Birth Defects Week is

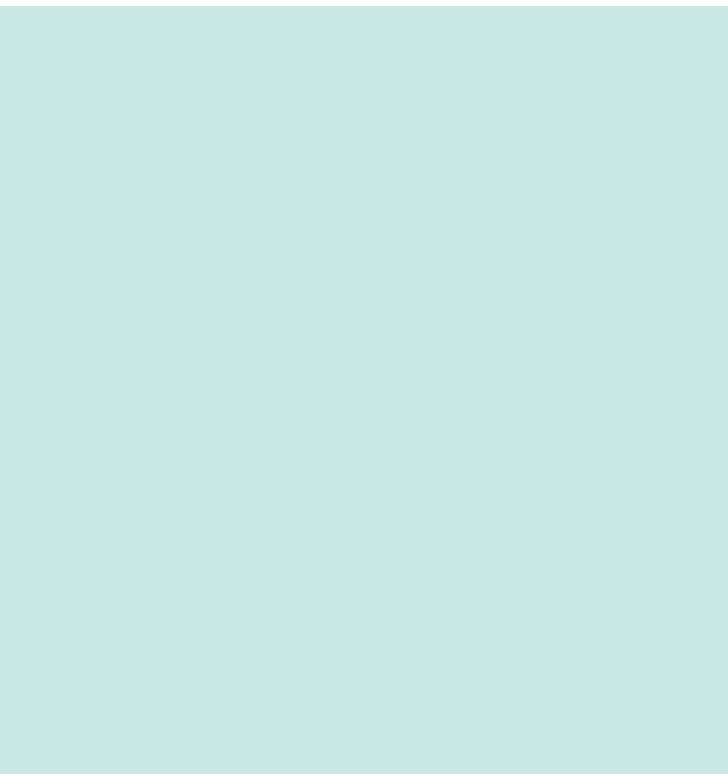
May 8 through 14 and the Aberdeen Proving Ground Army Substance Abuse Program wants everyone to know what it is and how it can be prevented.

Prenatal alcohol exposure is the most preventable cause of developmental disabilities, according to the Department of Health and Human

Services. Yet one in 10 U.S. women drinks alcohol while pregnant resulting in nearly 40,000 babies being born each year with fetal alcohol syndrome and hundreds of thousands of adults living with the effects of prenatal alcohol exposure.

WHAT is FAS?

See ALCOHOL, page 11



is offering a \$10 discount to military personnel to see two-time Grammy winner and country legend Dwight Yoakam live in concert, May 5 at Rams Head Tavern, located on 20 Market Place, Power Plant Live, Baltimore.

This is an all ages show with doors opening at 6 p.m. The opening act, Keni Thomas, will perform at 7 p.m. followed by Dwight Yoakam at 8 p.m.

Tickets for military personnel, with valid military identification, cost \$35 (limit one discount per person). Non-military tickets cost \$45 in advance and \$47 the day of the show.

Thomas is a former Army Ranger and member of the elite Task Force Ranger assault unit. Thomas fought in the Somalia battle recounted in the book and motion picture Black Hawk Down and was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor and the combat infantryman’s badge. His current project Flags Of Our Fathers – A Soldier’s Story is a collection of songs written by Thomas that tell stories inspired by life in the military and by those who serve the nation.

For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit www.ramsheadlive.com, call 410-727-5151 or 410-244-1131 or e-mail info@ramsheadlive.com.

CAC initial issuance, renewal procedures

The Common Access Card, or CAC, renewals and PIN resets must be completed by appointment only, within a 30-day period prior to the expiration date of the card.

Individuals need to contact the Badge/ID Office, Physical Security Support Division, Directorate of Law Enforcement at 410-306-2381, building 4305 or 410-436-3360, building E-4420 either for initial issuance or renewal.

Additionally, new employ-

ees (contractor, civilian or military) need to bring proof of Social Security number with them, such as SS card, Form 50 action, medical card, government driver’s license, military ID, a pay stub or a W2.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 pm to 4 p.m.; non-RDO Friday’s 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The offices are closed RDO Friday’s (Friday’s following government payday).

Volunteer of the Year nominations due

Volunteer of the Year nominations for volunteer service Jan. 1 through Dec.31, 2004 are due by May 6 to Army Community Service Volunteer Office, building 2754, room 206.

Categories are military (active duty, reserve, national guard), civilian employee, youth (18 years of age or younger), family member (19 years of age or older), and retiree (civilian or military). Each organization/unit may submit two nominations in each category.

For more information, contact Sarah Staats at 410-278-2464 or e-mail her at sarah.staats@apg.army.mil.

Post Shorts

Suicide intervention training

The Army Substance Abuse Program and the Post Chapel will present a two-day Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) workshop, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., May 10 and 11 at the Post Chapel for employees of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The workshop will provide participants with the necessary attitudes, knowledge and skills to recognize persons at risk and to undertake appropriate management or referral of a person who is at risk of suicide.

All directorates are encouraged to consider suicide intervention training for their employees.

Anyone who is struggling with thoughts of suicide is encouraged to contact their chaplain, a mental health professional, or the APG Employee Assistance Provider, 410-278-5319.

For more information or to register for training, call ASAP, 410-278-3810.

For more information on ASIST, contact the Chapel, 410-278-4333.

Blue Cross/Blue

LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Audrey Alba
Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)
Dianna Blevins
Sarah Blevins
Jeanie Bowman
Iris Campbell (chemotherapy)
Steven Clarke
Barbara Crossley
Dawn Crouse
Ruth Cunningham
Victoria Cwiertnie (lyme disease)
Carl Davis
Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)
Geraldine Eaton
John Gage
Renee Gaffney
Charles Gambrell
Miriam Garcia
Susan Gorhan
Beatrice Heilpern
Cynthia Henry (bronchitis with complications)
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyal-

gia condition)
Richard Hoffman
Janice Johnson (diabetic neuropathy)
Beverly King (caring for husband)
Danny Kopp (lung-cancer)
William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Joe McMonagle
Karen Milton
Tess Ramos (total hip replacement)
Boyd Richards
Cheryl L. Roark
Leigh Sanders
Barbara Seker
Suzette Shields
Joyce Steininger
Alison Tichenor
Linda Tignor
Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)
Marenda Tate
Gary Tudor - (heart valve replacement)
Gerard Yursis

Shield service visit

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has made arrangements for a claim representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield to visit Aberdeen Proving Ground on May 10, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. No appointment is necessary.

The representative will be available in Aberdeen, 9 to 11:30 a.m. in building 305, room 236; and in Edgewood, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in building E-4811 (seminar area of Conference Center).

For more information, contact Teri Wright, 410-278-4331, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

Office Eagle holds customer appreciation days

The Office Eagle Base Supply Centers will hold customer appreciation days 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 19 in building 320 and May 20, at 3007 Bush River Road.

Free food, product presentations and an opportunity for the staff to thank its patrons are part of the activities.

For more information, e-mail ralonso@bism.org.

Concert tickets for early birds

Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation and Aberdeen Proving Ground present The 2005 Miller Lite Army Concert featuring Terri Clark, Chely Wright, Julie Roberts and Miranda Lambert Aug. 20 on Shine Sports Field.

Gates will open at 6 p.m. and the show will start at 7 p.m.

A \$10 early bird ticket specials are available on a first come, first serve basis. These tickets are only available at MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4907/4011. Purchasers must present ID at time of purchase.

Tickets can be purchased at www.apgmwr.com, MWR Registration, Hoyle Fitness Center and Ticketmaster.

For more information, visit www.apgmwr.com.

EEO Office Showcases new Web site

The Installation EEO Office activated its new Web site May 1. The site contains its strategic plan, EEO related policies, and in-depth complaint processing procedures with timeline.

The site also provides links to the Outreach and Special Emphasis Programs, Military EO Program, and DA EEO and Civil Rights Office.

Visit the site either through the Garrison Installation Support Offices link or the APG web site, <http://www.apg.army.mil>.

Dental coverage update for Reserve retirees

Reservists who retire from the services are able to waive a standing one-year waiting period for certain dental services due to a new TRICARE rule.

Previously, reserve retirees had to be enrolled for 12 months before being covered for bridges, dentures and certain other dental services.

According to the new TRICARE ruling, as long as a reservist joins the Delta Dental plan within 120 days of his or her retirement date, and provides a copy of their retirement orders, they can request the one-year waiting period be waived.

For more information visit <http://www.trdp.org> or call 1-866-567-1658.

2005 Army Birthday Ball announced

Celebrate the Army’s 230th birthday at the 2005 Army Birthday Ball, 5:30 p.m., June 18, at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C.

For information, visit Army Knowledge Online at www.us.army.mil.

Community Notes

FRIDAY MAY 6 REGISTRATION FOR PRE-K/K

Roye-Williams Elementary School will hold its annual pre-kindergarten/kindergarten registration for the 2005 to 2006 school year, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Parents are reminded that Roye-Williams has a full-day kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration packets may be picked up at the school and returned on registration day for children who will be five years of age as of Sept. 30, 2005.

Pre-kindergarten registration packets may be picked up after 9 a.m. on May 6 for children who will be four years of age as of Sept. 1, 2005.

When application forms are received, they will be checked for completeness and stamped with the date/time they were received. Parents who register their child for pre-kindergarten prior to June 16 will be notified prior to June 30 of their child's acceptance or non-acceptance into the program.

Parents are requested to bring their child's birth certificate or verification of birth, Social Security card and all immunization records.

The school also requires proof of residency, which can be in the form of a property tax bill, rental lease, or utility bill (dated within the last two months prior to registration), which contains the parents' name and address. Parents must also bring a copy of their 2004 Federal Income Tax Return.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY MAY 6 AND 7 RIDE YOUR BIKE TO WORK DAY

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council will sponsor the third Annual Celebration of Bike to Work Day, 7 to 9 a.m., at the Harford County Administrative Office building, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air.

The event will spotlight commuters who choose the two-wheel alternative method to get to work.

Cyclists are encouraged to stop by for light refreshments and a chance to chat with other commuter cyclists.

All registered Bike to Work Day participants will receive an event T-shirt and the chance to win a commuter bicycle and accessories.

Riders on Aberdeen Proving Ground are reminded to wear appropriate reflective

gear, with helmet and eye protection.

Normal gate procedures will be in effect requiring ID at the gates. A family member can be sponsored by government ID holder.

For more information and registration, see www.bike2workcentralMD.com or call Alex Rawls, Harford County Department of Planning, 410-638-3103, or e-mail aarawls@co.ha.md.us.

SATURDAY MAY 7 COMEDY/ADULT PUPPET SHOW

American Legion Post 128 Aberdeen, 44 North Parke Street, will hold a Comedy/Adult Puppet Show at 8 p.m.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 per person. There will be a cash bar, chips and pretzels.

For reservations and tickets, call 443-243-1514.

TURKEY SUPPER

The Pilottown Rod and Gun Club, located on Belle Manor Road, Conowingo, will hold a turkey supper, 1 to 5 p.m., to benefit the Rod and Gun Club.

Tickets cost \$9 per person for a family-style dinner – eat-in or carryout.

Children under 6 years of age eat free. Tickets are

available at the door.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 410-378-2221, or Pat Job, 410-658-5628 or 410-378-0096.

THIRD ANNUAL IRONFEST

The Third Annual IronFest at Ripken Stadium will be held 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Activities for younger fans include an on-field skills competition, a coloring contest, "Kids Run the Bases," Kids Zone and Games in the Picnic Plaza and more.

Other events include unveiling of the IronBirds 2005 jerseys, National Anthem audition finals, live music, vendor booths, and new 2005 merchandise.

IronFest is partnering with AdoptaPlatoon to support our military troops stationed overseas. New and used CDs and DVDs will be collected.

For more information, visit www.ironbirdsbaseball.com.

TUESDAY MAY 10 BENEFIT CONCERT FORTSUNAMI VICTIMS

The North Harford High School Choral Program will stage a benefit concert at 7 p.m.

"Out of the Deep--A Prayer for the Children" will be performed by the North Harford

High School choirs at Kennard-Dale High School in Fawn Grove, Pa.

Proceeds will go to the Samaritan Children's Home in Sri Lanka which was devastated by the tsunami last year.

Guest conductor will be Paul Head from the University of Delaware.

The NHHS choirs are under the direction of former Harford Teacher of the Year Martha Banghart.

Businesses or individuals may participate by purchasing sponsorships. Individuals or groups can buy tickets at \$10, \$15 or \$20.

For more information or to purchase tickets/become a sponsor, call Benefit Concert Chairperson Mimi Hatch at 410-692-2465; or visit www.northharfordchoralarts.com.

The concert has also been dedicated to the memory of Judith Famous, former Harford elementary instrumental music teacher, who passed away earlier this year.

MAY 12, 13, 14 32ND ANNUAL EAST COAST RALLY

The Washington Area Collectors/Blue and Gray Military Vehicle Trust (WAC/BGMVT) will host the 32nd Annual East Coast Military Vehicle Rally, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Ripken Stadium.

Cost of admission is \$6 per person; a three-day pass costs \$15 per person.

Free admission with proper ID will be offered for children 12 years and under; and military, law enforcement, and fire fighters with valid ID card.

Proceeds from the event to benefit several military museums, war memorials, non-profit charitable and civic organizations.

For more information, e-mail Tom Buonaugurio at william@buonaugurio.com.

For more information, call 410-642-6066.

WACVA CHAPTER 114 MEETING

The Chesapeake Beacon, Chapter 114, of the Women's Army Corps Veterans' Association will hold its monthly meeting at the Perry Point VA Medical Center Outpatient Clinic, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

For more information, call or e-mail Wanda Story, 410-272-5040, e-mail OkieGirlMD@aol.com or visit Web site, www.wacva.com.

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3.50, CHILDREN \$1.75
Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard
To verify listing, call 410-272-9008.

GUESS WHO

Friday, May 6, 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 7, 9 p.m.

Starring: Ashton Kutcher, Regina King, William Shatner

A remake of the 1967 Sidney Poitier-Katharine Hepburn drama, this comedy follows a young man named Simon (Ashton Kutcher) as he meets his fiancée's father, Percy (Bernie Mac), for the first time.

Percy is nonplussed when he sees that his daughter's going to marry a white guy. (Rated PG-13)

MISS CONGENIALITY 2 (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, May 7, 7 p.m.

Starring: Sandra Bullock, Regina King, William Shatner

Since thwarting a threat against a contestant in the Miss United States pageant, FBI agent Gracie Hart (Bullock) has done the talk show circuit and written a book, becoming the FBI's public-relations mascot. But when Cheryl Frasier and Stan Fields (Shatner) are kidnapped, Gracie and her new partner, Sam (Regina King) go undercover in Las Vegas to save them. (Rated PG-13)



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

American Heroes Bowling League forming




Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Sign up for a three-person American Heroes Bowling team which will meet 6:30 p.m. for 17 weeks every Friday beginning May 20 and receive an American Hero's bowling ball and bag at completion of the league. Cost is \$10 per week and includes two games and shoes.

Bowlers will be asked to choose an Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or eagle designed bowling ball weighing from 8 to 15 lbs. The ball will be given to each bowler at the completion of the league in an eagle designed bowling bag.

Bowlers will be paying \$170 for a package valued at \$280.50. To register, call Dave Brewner, 410-278-4041.

CYS hosts youth chess tournament

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Child and Youth Services chess tournament held at the Aberdeen Youth Center April 23 may not have been large but it was still an intense competition for the five players who participated.

Charles Heinsohn, Morale, Welfare and Recreation program specialist and Ivan Mehosky, school liaison, hosted the round-robin event.

First place went to William Stone, 15. His brother Tommy Stone came in second and 12-year old Reshad Kimble took third. The other participants were Bryana White, 7, and Alex White, 9.

Age and experience made all the difference but the players, all of whom said their fathers taught them the game, said they appreciated the

chance to hone their skills.

"This is my first tournament but I like to play. I love the challenge," William Stone said.

"I like trying to win but even if I don't I learn from it," Alex White added.

His father, Capt. Duvel White of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, said that his son was growing as a player thanks to the MWR sponsored program.

"Charles [Heinsohn] is doing a good job promoting these tournaments," White said. "It's a good way to learn."

Bryana White said her father, Walter White, a civilian safety specialist with the 22nd Chemical Battalion, taught her everything she knows.

"I like to play chess at home and when I come here I learn

even more," she said.

"I told her to relax and do what you usually do," her

father said. "Winning isn't everything. Just remember the lesson."



Alex White, 9, concentrates hard as he thinks his way through a match during the APG Child and Youth Services chess tournament sponsored by Morale, Welfare and Recreation at the Aberdeen Youth Center April 23.

SCHOOL LIAISON/YOUTH EDUCATION

Youth Geography Challenge

APG youths are invited to take the "Youth Geography Challenge Top 35" at the Youth Center or at home May through August. Parents or staff may assist, but not provide answers.

Using a map or globe youths will get 35 questions to research and answer. There is also a bonus question worth 2 points.

Prizes will be awarded according to the number of correct answers:

- 31-35, 1st place trophy
- 25-30, 2nd place medallion (white ribbon)
- 19-24, 3rd place medallion (red ribbon)
- 12-18, participation trophy

For more information, call Ivan Mehosky, APG school liaison officer, 410-278-2857.

Learn to play chess

Youth Services offers free chess classes for APG students in 3rd grade or higher at the Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522, and Edgewood Youth Center, building E-1902.

Classes will be held at the Aberdeen Youth Center 3:45 to 4:30 p.m., Mondays, for students 6th grade and higher and for 3rd through 5th graders. Classes will be held at the Edgewood Youth Center 4:30 to 5:15 p.m., Wednesdays for students 3rd grade and higher. Instructional booklets and chess sets are available to all participating students. Round robin tournaments will also be conducted. Sign up with Charles Heinsohn at the times stated above, or call him at 410-278-3868.

Chess Tournament

An Adult Chess Championship will be held 9 a.m., May 14 at the Recreation Center, building 3326. All games will be 30-minutes. At the end of regulation time if checkmate has not been achieved, points will be counted to decide the winner. Should there be a tie on point totals, sudden death periods of 15 minutes will be used to determine the winner. Military and Open Divisions available. Must be 18 years of age or older to participate. Cost of participation is \$10. Register by May 12.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. For more information, call 410-278-3417.

Here is a list of some audio book CDs that are available in the APG Library:

- Saturday** by Ian McEwan
- True Believer** by Nicholas Sparks
- Two-Dollar Bill** by Stuart Woods
- Revenge of the Sith (Star Wars Episode 3)** by Matthew Stover

The Breakdown Lane by Jacquelyn Mitchard

The library's Web site, www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html provides access to the library's online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library's new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.

Lunch options on APG



Ruggles Golf Course
Sutherland Golf Clubhouse
Building 5600
Lunch is served Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday thru Sunday, 7 a.m. to dusk.
For more information, call 410-278-7263.

AA Recreation Center Snack Bar
Building 3326
Serves lunch Monday thru Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-2621.

Top of the Bay
Building 30
Lunch is served Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-3062.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar
Building 2342
Specials for May 9 through 15
Barbecue chicken fillet with chips, drink, \$3.95
OR
Hot dog with sauerkraut, fries, soda, \$4.25
Telephone orders will be accepted until 10:30 a.m. Callers should state condiment preferences.
For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041.

Women's Golf league registration

The Women's Golf League will hold weekly gatherings, tee times 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., May 5 through Sept. 29 at Ruggles Golf Course.

The registration fee costs \$10 plus weekly greens fees.

There will be set groups for individuals not

having a foursome. It's just for fun, no competition involved. All skill levels are welcome.

Register by May 5 at MWR Registration or Ruggles Golf Course, 5600 block, 410-278-4794.

Concert tickets on sale

Army MWR and Aberdeen Proving Ground present The 2005 Miller Lite Army Concert featuring Terri Clark, Chely Wright, Julie Roberts, and Miranda Lambert Aug. 20 on Shine Sports Field. Gates will open at 6 p.m. and the show will start at 7 p.m.

Reduced \$10 tickets are on sale to the public on a first come, first served basis. Only a limited

number of tickets are available at this special price. Once sold out, tickets will cost \$20 in advance and \$25 the day of the concert.

Tickets can be purchased at www.apgmwr.com, MWR Registration, Hoyle Fitness Center and Ticketmaster.

For more information, visit www.apgmwr.com.

Operating hours

The MWR Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., the first and third Friday of every month.

If that is a training holiday, the office will be open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the Thursday prior.

For more information, call 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@usag.apg.army.mil.

Methods of registration

Register for any MWR event by visiting the specific facility for the event, mailing in a registration form found in an MWR Program Brochure, visiting MWR Registration, building 3326, or visiting online at www.apgmwr.com.

Chesapeake Challenge open weekends

Chesapeake Challenge is open for weekends Saturday, 1 to 10 p.m. and Sunday and holidays, 1 to 8 p.m.

Try out the go-karts, miniature golf course and batting cages.

Parties, special event packages and group plans are available.

For more information, contact Ken Singleton, 410-278-4124 or e-mail outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

Bowling specials

To celebrate Cinco de Mayo (May 5), purchase a Play-N-Save pass for 20 games of bowling for \$25, good Monday through Friday.

On Mother's Day, May 8, mom's get to bowl for \$0.75 a game and rent shoes for \$0.75.

Coaches needed

The Child and Youth Services/MWR Youth Flag football program is in need of volunteer coaches for the 6- to 8-year old program.

Practices are 1 to 2 days per week for an hour each and games are on Saturdays, beginning May 7.

If interested, call Bill Kegley, 410-306-2297.

2005 Spring Amusement and Travel Extravaganza

The 2005 APG/MWR Spring Amusement & Travel Extravaganza will feature representatives from amusement parks, local attractions and hotels 10:30 to 2 p.m., May 12 in the AA Recreation Center.

Get a jump-start on the summer vacation all in one place.

For more information, contact MWR Registration, 410-278-4907/4011.

National Employee Health, Fitness Day

"Be active for life" is the theme for this year's

Employee Health and Fitness

Day, May 18, at the Health and Fitness Center, building 320. There will be a 2-mile fun run and a 3-mile fun walk at 11:30 a.m. A mini health fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210, will hold a 5K run at 6 a.m. and a health fair from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, visit the Fitness Center, building 320 or call 410-278-9725 or visit the Hoyle Fitness Center, building E-4210 or call 410-436-7134.

APG Talent Search

APG MWR is hosting a talent show 7:30 p.m., June 4, at the APG Post Theater. Admission is \$3 for active duty and \$5 for all others.

Prizes will be given to 1st place winners in all categories and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the overall talent search.

Talent categories are vocal soloist male/female, instrumental soloist, rap male/female, spoken word male/female, vocal group (max of 5 people), vocal instrumental (maximum of 10 people), dance and comedian.

Spring tune up time

Come to the Automotive Craft Center, building 2379, and get that vehicle ready for spring and summer. Tune the vehicle, change the anti-freeze, change the oil and rotate the tires; the Automotive Craft Center has the space available.

Hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

For more information contact Ed Dela Cruz, 410-278-5178 or e-mail ed.delacruz@usag.apg.army.mil.

Youth Tennis

The Youth Tennis program teaches the fundamentals of tennis including skills, rules and strategies. The program will have a tournament and skills competitions throughout.

The program will be held Wednesdays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., June 22 to Aug. 3, at the CRD Tennis Courts.

Cost is \$40 per child. Registration will be held May 2 to 20 at CYS Central Registration, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479, or the Edgewood Youth Services, building E-1902, 410-436-2862, by appointment only.

Junior golf

Junior golf teaches the fundamentals of golf including chipping, putting, driving, sand play, iron play and course management.

The rules of the game and proper golf etiquette will also be taught.

The program will have a tournament and skills competitions throughout.

Aberdeen Youth Services will hold Junior Golf on Tuesday and Thursday, June

21 to Aug. 4, at Ruggles Golf Course and Edgewood Youth Services will hold Junior Golf on Monday and Friday, June 20 to Aug 5 at Exton Golf Course. Times will be 8 a.m. for ages 7 through 9, 9 a.m. for ages 10 and 11, and 10 a.m. for ages 12 to 17.

Cost is \$65.

Register through May 20 at CYS Central Registration, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479, or the Edgewood Youth Services, building E-1902, 410-436-2862, by appointment only.

'Putt 4 Dough'

Go for the green on June 18 at Exton Golf Course or July 16 at Ruggles Golf Course with the Army Golf program.

Army Golf Courses will host a 'Putt 4 Dough' promotion this summer, in conjunction with the Summer Scramble.

Someone at each installation could win \$10,000.

Participants of the promotion will put their putter to the test.

All it takes to win is to make three successive putts in a row from 10', 25' and 50' and golfer could win the \$10,000 prize purse.

The promotion is open to everyone, no golf experience needed.

Stop by the Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-4794, or Exton Golf Course, 410-436-2213, for more details on how to 'Putt 4 Dough.'

For a copy of the official rules and a list of the participating locations, visit www.ArmyMWRGolf.com.

LPGA tickets

MWR has tickets to see the McDonald's LPGA Championship Tournament featuring the biggest names in women's golf June 9 through 12 at Bulle Rock, Havre de Grace.

Cost is \$8 for general admission, \$30 for Season Badges (daily admission and transportation to and from designated parking areas) and \$60 for Hall of Fame Badges (VIP Hospitality facility).

Register by May 20.

Basic auto mechanics class

Instructional classes designed to enable the student to perform maintenance on a vehicle's engine and accessories will be taught Wednesdays, 6 to 7 p.m., June 1 through 22, Automotive Crafts, building 2379.

The skills learned in this class can also be applied to lawn mower engines as well as other small engines.

The hands-on training received in these classes will enable participants to recognize the warning signs and gain the skills needed to help them maintain their vehicles, possibly, helping to avoid expensive repairs.

Cost is \$35. Register by May 26.

Health & Safety

Military struggling with rising health care costs

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample, USA
American Forces Press Service

Rising medical costs and the expansion of health benefits for retirees, Guardsmen and Reservists, and their families, are putting a strain on the military health care system, Defense Department health and personnel officials told members of Congress April 21.

“Rising health care costs are not unique to the military health system; it’s a national concern, and we are struggling with it,” Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for Health Affairs, said in testimony before the personnel subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

David S. C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for Personnel and Readiness, also testified at the hearing. He said rising costs can also be attributed to increased enrollment in TRICARE benefit programs.

Chu said improvements in TRICARE benefits have made the health plan “widely accepted” by service members, retirees and their families.

And, he added, “others seek to join this program,” referring to retirees over age 65, who joined TRICARE for Life, and Reservists, who can begin enrolling in TRICARE Reserve Select this month.

However, he said, the popularity of TRICARE programs has brought with it “substantial cost.”

Winkenwerder pointed out that expenses for TRICARE have grown rapidly, doubling over the past five years from \$18 billion to nearly \$36 billion this year. If the current trend continues, the program’s total budget could top \$50 billion within five years, he said.

By 2010, Winkenwerder estimated, approximately

“70 percent of the health budget will be spent caring for retirees.”

“The facts show that our expansion of health benefits, such as those for our senior retirees, underlies the growth, and that growth could put today’s operations and sustainment at risk,” he said.

In addition, the expansion of health care benefits to retirees has led to increased pharmacy costs. Winkenwerder said the cost of TRICARE’s pharmacy program has increased 500 percent since 2001, with costs approaching \$6 billion this year.

He said the department is trying to control some of those costs by implementing “performance-based” budgets and improving TRICARE’s pharmacy program with a new formulary and using federal pricing for its retail pharmacy network.

In addition, he said, TRICARE contracts are now designed to “leverage private-sector methods” in order to control purchased health care costs.

Still, he added, management actions alone, even dramatic ones, “will not stem the rapid growth spending.”

“That is because benefit expansion and rising utilization are the driving forces in sending these costs upward,” he explained.

Winkenwerder said part of TRICARE’s problem is that the program’s benefit structure has not kept pace with changes in the private sector or industry. For example, enrollment fees and cost shares for TRICARE have not increased in a decade, he said.

Winkenwerder pointed out that while TRICARE cost shares have remained “unchanged” over the past five years, those for private health care firms have risen sig-

nificantly. For instance, cost shares for Kaiser Permanente Mid-Atlantic region rose 57 percent, and those for Blue Cross Standard rose 87 percent.

“This has persuaded a growing number of our beneficiaries to drop their private coverage and to fully rely upon TRICARE,” he said.

Winkenwerder cautioned the committee that the “low out-of-pocket costs and outstanding benefit” that TRICARE provides will drive “all of our retirees (to) rely on TRICARE instead of their employer-based plans in just a few years.”

“Simply put, we face a tremendous challenge with a benefit design that does not always reward the efficient use of care,” he said. “And that is increasingly out of step with employer plans.”

However, he told the sub-committee, the department is looking at “viable options” to contain costs.

One possible option, according to Chu, would be establishing a health-savings plan for military families, similar to the one Congress authorized for DoD civil service employees. “We are looking hard at how you would offer (such a plan) on a voluntary basis – again, your choice – to military households,” Chu said.

Chu said he has asked the department to look into the issue. Although, he added, such a plan would likely need statutory authority from Congress. “The military benefit is called out in a separate set of statutes and governed by those statutes,” he said. “So if we were going to offer a thoughtful health-saving account plan we would need some additional statutory authority.”

Motorcycle training available at APG

Randy Rexrode
DSHE

Operators of privately owned motorcycles need to be in compliance with the Department of Defense, Instruction 6055-4, Traffic Safety Program and Army Regulation 385-55, Prevention of Motor Vehicle Accidents.

It is a DoD and Army requirement that all motorcyclists take an operators training course to be eligible to ride motorcycles on any DoD or Army installation.

To assist APG motorcycle drivers in

complying with the regulations, Motorcycle Safety Foundation training courses are held at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center & Schools’ parking lot.

The course is designed to help prevent motorcycle accidents involving Army personnel, family members, government employees and contractors.

Training will be available monthly with the exception of the winter months. The five-hour class is provided at no cost. Military and government employees are not charged leave while attending the training.

Motorcyclists who have already taken a MSF course other than at APG and can provide MFS proof, do not have to repeat the training.

The MSF is nationally recognized for its research-based rider education and

training system. For more information, visit Web site, <http://www.msf-usa.org/>.

Anyone interested in improving their riding skills and fine tuning driving strategies should contact instructor Dave Backert by e-mailing him at dwbvast@aol.com, or call 443-910-1213.

The class schedule is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 4, 11, and 25; June 1 and 8; July 6, 13, and 27; Aug. 3, 17, and 24; and Sept. 7.

If riders are unable to attend a class during the week due to scheduling problems, a weekend class can be set up if enough riders show an interest.

The course is for any licensed motorcyclist who wishes to continue to ride on APG.

Class attendance requirements include wearing protective clothing including eye protection, long sleeves, long pants, full fingered gloves and over the ankle footwear, (no tennis shoes) and helmet.

All helmets must be Department of Transportation approved and have the sticker on the helmet.

Motorcycle owners using their own

vehicles to take the APG class should be prepared to show proof of insurance, motorcycle license and assure that their vehicle is prepared to pass an inspection performed by the instructor.

There will be a riding skill test and a written test.

During the summer months, there will be gate checks by the Installation Safety Division ensuring that all riders who are coming onto the installation have taken the riders safety course and have the proper riding gear.

Any rider unable to show proof of taking an approved MSF course either from APG or another location and/or not having the proper riding gear, i.e. - DoT approved helmet, full fingered gloves, long sleeve shirt or jacket, (brightly colored garment during the day and retro-reflective garment at night), long trousers, safety glasses or goggles/face shield, will not be allowed on the installation until all requirements have been met.

KUSAHC welcomes patients to Tricareonline.com

KUSAHC

Tricareonline.com offers Department of Defense beneficiaries, managers, and providers an array of interactive features and capabilities that are accessible 24/7 from any laptop or personal computer anywhere, said Lt. Col. Barrett, deputy commander for Administration at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. Some features available to beneficiaries include a Personal Health Journal, Symptom checker, Rx Checker, 18 million pages of consumer health information, disease management tools, and TRICARE claims and benefits information.

One of the initiatives implemented through Tricareonline.com is TRICARE prime appointment scheduling.

Other features include prescription refills and renewals.

Tricareonline.com is one of the most significant changes in the Military Health System since the creation of TRICARE itself,

Barrett said.

As a dot com Internet system it is accessible from any personal computer or laptop with an Internet connection in the world.

All TRICARE patient, provider and manager transactions are routed through a secure, electronic portal. By linking 8.7 million beneficiaries, managers and providers, **tricareonline.com** is the largest Web based program in military or civilian health care.

Barrett said that the program was designed to be intuitive and easy to navigate, even for new Internet users.

This sophistication of the style, features and capabilities has moved TRICARE to a new level.

Provider and beneficiary responses have exceeded expectations.

After registering, beneficiaries may begin to utilize the TOL features such as online appointing.

For more information, visit www.tricareonline.com.

KUSAHC puts emphasis on children’s safety in the clinic

KUSAHC

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic has implemented new policies regarding safety to patients in the clinic.

Concerns over child safety have prompted KUSAHC to address a policy on non-patient children in the facility. Only patients can access examination or treatment rooms. Children without appointments cannot accompany patients into the treatment or exam room.

The presence of non-patient children is often distracting for the patient and the provider. In addition, non-patient children are often at risk under these circumstances because of the inability to provide adequate

supervision for them while the parent or sibling is being treated.

Parents or sponsors need to arrange for childcare for non-patient children. If the patient’s reason for an appointment is not urgent, then the patient will reschedule the appointment.

Effective June 1, parents can use existing hourly childcare services on-post. Parents must pre-register through the Outreach Office at 410-278-7571. Registration requires filling out a packet. The Daycare would have to be notified a week in advance of any hourly daycare on a first come, first served basis. The cost is \$3.50 an hour and no more than 25 hours a week.

Nurses receive recognition next week

Lt. Col. Kathleen Wiltsie
KUSAHC

The American Nurses Association theme to recognize National Nurse’s Week, May 6 through 12, is “Nurses Many Roles/One Profession.”

At Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic--both Edgewood and Aberdeen, there is a total of 517 years of nursing experience—more than five centuries. That is more years than the United States of America is old.

It is one profession yet the roles are many. There are ambulatory care nurses, nurse administrators, nurse educators, nurse practitioners and occupational and community health nurses. Each role has a specific set of skills.

The expertise, clinical judgment and caring by nurses is a critical part of quality health care.

Anyone who knows a nurse, should say “Thank you” for all their unselfish giving of time and talent. This is a time to recognize and appreciate the dedication, commitment and compassion of nurses.

Anyone interested in nursing can ask either the active duty or civilian nurses at KUSAHC and learn what a rewarding profession it is.

KUSAHC holds Health and Fitness Day May 18

KUSAHC

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will hold Employee Health Day 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 18, at the Aberdeen Recreation Center.

There will be blood pressure screenings, a 3-mile walk/run, grip strength measurements, and a 15-minute relaxation exercise class. Information will be available on nutrition, safety, West Nile Virus prevention, heat injury prevention, hearing protection and proper foot care.

Food will be available for purchase and door prizes will be given away.

For more information, contact Cheri Whiting, 410-278-1913.

Save Thousands On Your New BOAT!

Freedom Federal Credit Union and Riverside Marine are teaming up for a great boat show right at Freedom's Park Avenue headquarters at 2019 Emmorton Road in Bel Air.

During the 4-day show (May 11-14):

- Special Freedom member discount prices and rate* - as low as 6.24% APR**
- 90-day deferred loan program – buy now, first payment in 90 days***
- 100% financing available

We'll kick the Boat Show and Sale into high gear on Saturday May 14 with free food and prize drawings! Buy a new boat at the show and Riverside will give you some great gifts (Free Safety Class and Free Accessory Package). Finance your new purchase through Freedom, and we've got a terrific present for you too!



* - Rate after May 14, 2005 returns to non-show rate of 7.24% APR.
** - Annual Percentage Rate and is subject to change without notice.
*** - New purchase loans only. 90-day deferred payment also available on automobiles, motorcycles, and RVs.



All loans are subject to credit approval, and each loan is based on a review of applicant's credit. Certain restrictions apply.

410-676-5700 • 1-800-440-4120 • freedomfcu.org

Deployment News

ECBC personnel provide equipment transport assistance

Joan Michel
ECBC

In these times of conflict, images of Soldiers in transit are prevalent. What isn't usually shown is the less stirring but highly important story of equipment transport.

Cutting across continents and climates, cargo must be able to withstand extremes of temperature, weather and impact.

"Appropriate packaging is critical to the successful transport of military equipment," said Nancy Waltman, team leader of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's Packaging Team. "Transport of damaged equipment is another area where packaging of equipment plays a role."

Known as retrograde operations, the process requires the shipment of damaged but fixable items from theater for repair, refurbishment and, eventually, return-to-service. Before it can be repaired, however, equipment must travel halfway around the world to get home.

During recent months, retrograde operations have experienced high rates of "washed out" equipment—in other words, equipment that has been damaged to the point of being unrepairable—returning from theaters in the middle east.

Ironically, the "wash out" damage has happened not in combat but in transport. As a result, the Department of the Army-chaired Army Packaging Policy Workgroup initiated an effort to improve retrograde packaging operations and streamline current packaging practices.

In response, ECBC deployed two staff mem-

bers from its Packaging Team, part of the Engineering Directorate's Acquisition Services Business Unit, to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, to assist with improvements to the retrograde packaging process. These individuals served as members of the U.S. Army Materiel Command Packaging Support Team, which was assisting the Coalition Forces Land Component Command.

"While in-person overseas support is notable, the ECBC Packaging Team frequently assists military units in preparing for deployments, both on site and in response to verbal and electronic requests," Waltman said.

In the course of their work at Aberdeen Proving Ground and around the country, the team has assisted in the development of concepts, procedures and methods for improved blocking and bracing and safe, effective packing and transportation of equipment and hazardous materials. As a result, they can leverage those procedures and best practices for military units preparing to deploy—or those already in the field.

"These methods prevent the kind of equipment damage that was occurring in shipments from Camp Arifjan," said Dean Hansen, packaging specialist with the team.

When the ECBC personnel arrived at the camp in Kuwait, they found that existing packaging practices were gravely insufficient or absent altogether. After assessing the situation, the two team members trained military personnel and provided guidance to contractors working in retrograde operations. The instruction covered preservation, packaging and marking

requirements for items being shipped back to the United States for repair. They also demonstrated proper crate fabrication, in accordance with military standards.

"These factors are critical when transporting military equipment because of the extremes encountered in the military distribution system," said Dexter Jennings, another packaging specialist with the ECBC Packaging Team.

"Items must be transportable by any mode—air, water or land—in temperatures ranging from -50 to 160 F," said Hansen. "Packaging must also be able to withstand long-term storage in a variety of conditions and tempera-

tures."

To ensure that retrograde operations personnel are able to prepare items properly on their own, the ECBC packaging team reviewed packaging equipment, procedures, concepts and methods currently being used.

In addition to providing guidance for unique challenges, ECBC personnel advised contractors how to maintain appropriate standards for cleaning, drying and packaging in general.

Before departing, the ECBC team will ensure that the box shop at Camp Arifjan has the equipment necessary to continue exercising appropriate packaging procedures in the future.



Courtesy of ECBC

Packaging specialists face a daunting task in Kuwait.

Additional support available for TRICARE beneficiaries

Social Security Online

Working with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Department of Defense, Social Security has recently identified approximately 40,000 TRICARE-eligible recipients of Medicare Part A who were not directly notified of their opportunity to

enroll in Medicare Part B.

Under the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 such beneficiaries received a special Medicare Part B enrollment period, allowing them to choose a month of Part B entitlement, and exempting them from any additional premiums which are traditionally chargeable for late enroll-

ments.

The Social Security Administration has established a policy that will fully protect these beneficiaries by allowing them the opportunity to enroll in Part B at the date of their choice (any month from January 2004 through June 2005) regardless of when they are contacted by SSA or when

they independently come forward.

Thus, all beneficiaries will have the same enrollment options they would have had if they had been contacted by SSA last September.

During the last week of March, 2005, SSA mailed notices to these recently identified individuals, providing an

explanation of their Medicare enrollment options and a form they can return in order to select a Part B enrollment date.

By returning the form, TRICARE beneficiaries can take advantage of the special enrollment period in the same manner as those individuals Social Security automatically

enrolled in Part B last September.

Medicare-eligible TRICARE recipients who have not heard from SSA, should stop by a local Social Security Office or call SSA at 1-800-772-1213 for help with information needed to determine the best options.

TRICARE Reserve Select signup has started



OSD

TRICARE Reserve Select sign up is available now. Eligible reserve component members may begin to enter and execute their service agreements so they may qualify to purchase TRS.

Members are requested to complete each step in order.

Step 1 - Enter into the Service Agreement

- RC members who separated from qualifying active duty service on or after April 27, 2005, must enter into a service agreement before leaving active duty through the Guard and Reserve Portal at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/Guard-ReservePortal> from any Web browser (e.g., home, work, public library, etc.).

- RC members who separated from qualifying active duty service on or before April 26, 2005, should go to Step 2.

Step 2 - Execute the Service Agreement

- All RC members who separated from qualifying active duty service must work with their Service/Reserve Component to execute the Service Agreement.
- RC members who separated from qualifying active duty service on or after April 27, 2005, should contact their Reserve Component within four months after leaving active duty to execute the agreement.
- RC members who separated from qualifying active duty service on or before April 26, 2005, must execute

their service agreement by Oct. 28, 2005.

- Please note, the Service Agreement does not guarantee a Selected Reserve billet. RC members must be in the Selected Reserve by the time their TRICARE Reserve Select coverage begins.

Step 3 - Purchase TRICARE Reserve Select

- Upon completion of the Service Agreement as described in Steps 1 and 2, the Service/Reserve Component will record eligibility in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Then the RC member should download his or her personalized enrollment form from the Guard and Reserve Portal at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/Guard-ReservePortal>.

- RC members should follow the instructions on their TRICARE Reserve Select enrollment form, complete the form, and submit it with a one-month premium payment to their TRICARE regional contractor (listed below) so they receive it no later than 30 days before the end of their transitional TRICARE coverage ends under the Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP). The check must be made payable to their TRICARE regional contractor.

RC members can start with Step 1 at the Guard and Reserve Portal, <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/Guard-ReservePortal> or contact their Service/Reserve

Component personnel activity.

MCART

From front page

attachment for the RWS, to give the Army the capability to individually test large military tires.

ATC testers have completed more than two dozen tests on the simulator recently to meet urgent needs identified by the Army as it conducts the war on terrorism. Some of this work focused on improving the road-handling characteristics of the Army's up-armored High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle, dubbed the "Humvee."

Among other things, this testing led to new tires, springs and sway bars for the heavier Humvees.

The MCART program is at a starting point from which it will grow, according

to Schultz.

That sentiment was echoed throughout the signing ceremony.

Col. Mary Brown, commander, ATC, provided a list of future MCART activities.

- Developing a new Vehicle Durability Simulator for advanced reliability testing,

- Providing ATC employees and other students a focus for graduate studies in the automotive field,

- Encouraging the use of cooperative engineering education students in ATC test and research facilities,

- Providing new career opportunities for university engineering students,

- Advancing the careers of current ATC employees, and

- Developing new research and business opportunities in the automotive field.

Alcohol

From front page

FAS refers to a group of birth anomalies. Signs and symptoms can include:

- Distinctive facial features
- Growth deficits
- Brain damage
- Physical problems, such as heart, lung, and kidney defects
- People with FAS often have behavior and learning problems. They also lack social skills.

FAS occurs in about 10 per 1,000 births in the United States. Alcohol causes more damage to the fetus than any other substance. It can be worse than heroin, cocaine and marijuana.

Caring for someone with FAS can cost as much as \$5 million.

Despite warnings, pregnant

women continue to drink. Many drink frequently (five plus drinks per week) or binge drink (four plus drinks in one sitting).

This type of drinking quadrupled in the early 1990s and has not changed since.

Preventing FAS

First and foremost, women should stop drinking when they are pregnant or planning a pregnancy.

Everyone can play a part in FAS prevention. For example:

- Physicians can advise patients to abstain from drinking during pregnancy.
- Spouses, partners, friends and families can support pregnant women who choose not to drink.
- Alcohol treatment programs can give priority to pregnant women.
- Schools can teach young people about the dangers of

drinking while pregnant.

Remember, the sole cause of FAS/FAE is a woman drinking alcohol while pregnant.

For more information contact Cindy Scott at 410-278-3784, Cynthia.Scott1@usag.apg.army.mil, stop by the

ASAP office in building A-2477 and speak with an ASAP staff member, or by visiting the new Web site www.apg-intra.apg.army.mil/apg/asap/ or clicking on the blue ASAP box on the right side of the APG Home Page.



Concert

From front page

D.C.

A native of Wellsville, Ks., Wright came on the music scene in 1995 when she won the ACM's Best New Female Vocalist award. In 1999 she was nominated for Best Female Vocalist and for Best Music Video for the song, "Single White Female."

Wright was one of People Magazine's 50 Most Beautiful People in 2002 and her singles "Never Love You Enough" and "Jezebel" made the CMT

and GAC Top 20 Countdowns for more than six weeks.

Julie Roberts

A singer-songwriter from Nashville, Roberts honed her skills in various clubs around Music City until 2003 when she played her music for her boss, Luke Lewis, chairman of Universal Music Group Nashville. Lewis was immediately sold on the music of Roberts — an appealing blend of country and blues that both embraces country's heritage and reveals a fresh, contemporary sound.

"I just look for lyrics that are real," Roberts says.

"That's the basis for all my songs."

Her self-titled CD includes her debut hit, "Break Down Here," and the song, "Down Home," which celebrates people who keep their feet firmly planted in reality. Her emotion-soaked sensuous CD is a stark contrast to the pop-country music so prevalent today.

Miranda Lambert

Lambert's debut CD, "Kerosene," a rough, pounding, jangling country-rock about being fed up with romance, debuted on the Country Music Charts at #1. It includes the songs "There's A

Wall," "What About Georgia," "Love's Looking For You," and "Love Your Memory," all of which Lambert wrote.

The Texas native says she was inspired by singer-songwriters like Jack Ingram, Allison Moorer, Guy Clark and Emmylou Harris.

In 2003, Lambert auditioned for the "Nashville Star" competition and finished in third place. By September, she had a Sony contract.

"I always say the Nashville Star saved me from five more years in the honky tonks," Lambert said.